

All residents are encouraged to attend

The Next Town Assembly
OF THE VILLAGE OF ARDEN
Monday, Jan. 27, 2003
at 7:30 p.m. in Gild Hall

2126 The Highway, Arden, Delaware

OUR AGENDA WILL INCLUDE:

1. A report from the Avery Task Force will provide an update on negotiations. A motion will be made to authorize a special town meeting to begin the referendum process for purchase of the five-acre Avery property. Neither a vote at this meeting or at the special meeting will authorize the purchase; that can only be done by a referendum.
2. A motion from the Harvey Road Traffic Calming Committee to approve DelDOT's concept plan for changes to Harvey Road. If the concept is approved, planning will move to the design phase.
3. Nominations for Village Committees will be accepted.
4. A report from the Town Watch will be heard. Recently, two or more vehicles in Ardentown had all four tires slashed repeatedly and, two days earlier, thieves broke into the Candlelight Theater, which suffered numerous acts of vandalism before that. An intensive series of Town Watch patrols have taken place since then.
5. Trustees Report, including a review of their policies affecting the transfer of leaseholds.
6. Committee Reports in reverse alphabetical order.

All are welcome hither.

Please note: Those attending town meetings are eligible to vote only if they have resided in Arden six consecutive months prior to the meeting and are 18 years old or older.

Minutes of the Town Assembly for the Village of Arden

Monday, September 23, 2002

Gild Hall - Arden, Delaware

61 residents were in attendance, as shown below, an increase of five since the previous meeting on June 24, 2002. Of these sixty-two, 21 were not at the previous meeting. In recent years, attendance at September meetings was 43 in 2001, 46 in 2000, 65 in 1999, 87 in 1998, 56 in 1997, 46 in 1996, and 54 in 1995.

Frank Akutowicz	June Kleban	Steve Tanzer
Beverly Barnett	Lynda Kolski	Debbie Theis
Lou Bean	Mary Marconi	Steven Threefoot
Ruth Bean	Albert Marks	Elizabeth Varley
Jennifer Borders	Connie McKinney	Cecilia Vore
Lizzie Broadbent	Helga Melton	Larry Walker
Walter Broadbent	Lisa Mullinax	Leah Walker
Dela Bryan	Elizabeth O'Regan	Laura Wallace
Marianne Cinaglia	Denis O'Regan	Jan Westerhouse
Carolyn Cordivano	Cookie Ohlson	Tom Wheeler
Alton Dahl	Roberta Perkins	Mark Zylkin
Cynthia Dewick	Jeffrey Politis	
Joan Fitzgerald	Bill Press	ALSO PRESENT:
Jane Frantz	Peter A. Renzetti	Dave Brady, <i>State</i>
David Gerbec	Liz Resko	<i>Representative</i>
Rachel Grier-Reynolds	Josiane Rey	Jaci & Ken Ellen (sp?)
Rick Grier-Reynolds	Edward Rohrbach	Liz Ellmore
Aaron Hamburger	Sue Rothrock	Frank Holodick
Sally Hamburger	Johanne Schroeder	Wayne Smith, <i>State</i>
Barbara Henry	Danny Schweers	<i>Representative</i>
Amy Hill	Sally Sharp	Anne R. Smock
Heidi Hoegger	Sadie Somerville	Bob Weiner, <i>New Castle</i>
Rodney Jester	Jan Stearns	<i>County Councilman</i>
Harold Kalmus	Jeffrey Steen	
Allan Kleban	Rebecca Sheppard Sutton	

1. Meeting called to order: Steven Threefoot, Town Chair, called the meeting to order. Corrections to the minutes of the previous meeting were called for. None were received and the minutes were approved as published.

2. New Residents: Two new residents of Arden stood and introduced themselves: Frank Holodick and Rebecca Sheppard Sutton.

3. Recently Deceased: A moment of silence was observed in memory of Jack Bovard, Dan Conner, Gail Rinehart, Wilbur Smith, and Andrew Wright.

4. Introduction of Visitors: State Representative Bob Weiner reported on the good things planned for the Claymont Renaissance, including a marina, bike- and walk-ways.

5. Claymont Renaissance Report by Jane Frantz.

"My overall impressions, having attended only one meeting so far, is that the group (the Claymont Renaissance Committee) is larger, more organized, diverse, and serious of

purpose than I imagined. After the meeting, I had fewer doubts that the Claymont revitalization project will succeed than I had going in. There are quite a few things already well underway. However, as anyone who has worked on any Arden committee knows, much of the early work of any group takes place in the background, laying the foundation, before any outward signs of progress can be seen. The same is true of the Claymont Renaissance Committee. They have developed a master plan, and chosen a course of action based on that plan. Their efforts have considerable backing from New Castle County and the State of Delaware, both in money and manpower. Both governmental entities are making personnel available to work with the Renaissance group, and their project and their concerns appear to be on "the front burner" with both the County and the State. The New Castle County Department of Land Use has even hired a town planner, Tom Comitta, of Thomas Comitta Associates, Inc., to work with the Renaissance Committee in developing their master plan, as well as to focus the energy and direction of the Committee.

"The first phase of the Renaissance effort will be focused on the 'Claymont Center,' an area that runs along Philadelphia Pike from roughly Perkins Run to Manor Avenue. Their initial effort will be directed at redesigning Philadelphia Pike to create more of a village atmosphere, and several plans are under consideration. A public workshop to present these plans is scheduled for October 7th from 4:00-8:00 p.m. in the Naamans Room of the Claymont Community Center.

"I was the only person from Ardens at the Renaissance Committee meeting. Everyone there seemed very welcoming and pleased that other communities are interested in what they are doing. We, in the Ardens, have many areas of interest in common with the Claymont group, from traffic calming and road redesign to environmental concerns. I believe it is in our interest as a community to support the efforts of the Claymont Renaissance Committee and to use whatever influence we may have to encourage the other two Ardens to participate as well. Many members of the Renaissance Committee stated in their comments that their goal is to 'act globally,' by which they mean that they see themselves as part of the larger group of communities of Brandywine Hundred and New Castle County, and they realize that whatever decisions they make will probably have an effect on other communities as well. I believe this group could be an important ally of the Ardens whenever we have common issues before organizations like the CCOBH (of which they are also a member) as well as County or State government.

"The next meeting of the Claymont Renaissance Committee is on October 17th at 5:00 p.m. in the Delaware Room of the Claymont Community Center."

6. Presentation of Petition to State Representative:

Rebecca Sheppard Sutton, Associate Director of the University of Delaware's Center for Historic Architecture and Design and Arden resident, presented the factual justification for preservation and the Resident Curator program used so successfully in Maryland.

Beverly Barnett, member of Preservation Delaware Inc.'s Historic Roads Committee and Arden resident, circulated the attached petition which was signed by 56 New Castle County residents. She also described the past, present and hopefully future presence of grazing cows at the property, courtesy of High Point Dairy.

Councilman Weiner suggested that support be solicited from these five groups, most of which were the initiators of this grass roots preservation project:

1. New Castle County Land Use Department
2. New Castle County Historic Review Board
3. Preservation Delaware Incorporated
4. The immediate neighbors
5. Area preservationists

Councilman Weiner urged residents to promote pro-active Historic Overlay Zoning by the New Castle County Historic Review Board. He said that he will not take the lead on this effort, but would back residents' efforts.

State Representative Wayne Smith cited his Sept. 17, 2002 letter to County Executive Tom Gordon stating his willingness to help coordinate State participation in a Resident Curator program.

TEXT OF PETITION SIGNED AT ASSEMBLY
September 23, 2002

RE: Save the Jester House at 2818 Grubb Road

TO: Thomas P. Gordon, County Executive
New Castle County Council
87 Reads Way
New Castle, DE 19720

Sherry Freebery, Chief Administrative Officer
New Castle County Council
87 Reads Way
New Castle, DE 19720

Christopher A. Coons, President
New Castle County Council
Lewis L. Redding Building
800 N. French Street
Wilmington, DE 19801

Robert S. Weiner, Councilman District #2
New Castle County Council
Lewis L. Redding Building
800 N. French Street
Wilmington, DE 19801

Members of the Grubb Road Alliance and Ardens residents are interested in maintaining what little remains of the historic fabric of Brandywine Hundred. We are particularly interested in Harvey and Grubb Roads which, along with a short stretch of Shipley Road, give some idea of pre-1950s roadways.

Please use the Jester property as a pilot Resident-Curator program. This program makes it possible for government-owned historic properties to be leased for a lifetime to tenants committed to restoration. The lifetime lease is "free" – in exchange for restoration to explicit specifications for protection of historic properties.

Please act now to Protect the Irreplaceable. Help turn the tide on what Dr. Bernie Herman calls "Delaware Demolished". Save the Jester House at 2818 Grubb Road.

1. Withdraw New Castle County's request to demolish the Jester House.
2. Rezoning the house and appropriate outbuildings as Historic structures.
3. Create a Resident-Curator program so that the few historic houses still standing can be preserved without burden to taxpayers.

As a resident of New Castle County, I support preservation of the Jester House. [The following names are those who signed the petition on Sept. 23.] Akutowicz, Frank;

Barnett, Beverly A; Bean, Lou; Bean, Ruth; Borders, Jennifer; Broadbent, Lizzie; Broadbent, Walter; Bryan, Dela Muhlenberg; Cordivano, Carolyn; Dahl, Alton J.; Dewick, Cynthia; Fitzgerald, Joan; Frantz, Jane; Gerbec, David; Grier-Reynolds, Rachel; Hamburger, Aaron; Hamburger, Sally; Henry, Barbara; Hill, Amy; Hoegger, Heidi; Holodick, Frank; Jester, Rodney W.; Kleban, June; Kleban, Allan; Kolski, Lynda; Marconi, Mary; Marks, Albert; McKinney, Connee; Melton, Helga; Mullinax, Lisa; O'Regan, Betty; O'Regan, Denis; Ohlson, Helen; Perkins, Roberta; Renzetti, Peter; Resko, Liz; Rey, Josiane; Rohrbach, Edward; Rothrock, Sue; Schroeder, Johanne; Schweers, Danny; Sharp, Sally; Smock, Anne; Stearns, Jan; Sutton, Rebecca Sheppard; Tanzer, Steven; Theis, Debbie; Threefoot, Steven; Varley, Elizabeth; Vore, Cecilia; Walker, Larry; Walker, Leah; Wallace, Laura; Westerhouse, Jan; Wheeler, Tom; and Zylkin, Mark.

7. Recognition of Services by Bill Press: Jan Stearns (daughter of Ann Smock), presented Bill Press with a certificate honoring his many years of service as Chair of the Town Assembly. State Representative Wayne Smith echoed her remarks, noting that Bill's tenure spanned a third of Arden's history. Bill rose and expressed his thanks, noting that the position had not always been an easy one. He remembered Buzz Ware once bought an automobile just so he could get off by himself and calm down when affairs of the village became overbearing. Bill said he sometimes felt the same way, but always came back. He then asked State Representative Dave Brady to stand and encouraged people to vote for Dave or Wayne but to get out and vote! Dave Brady then made some remarks about his candidacy.

8. Recognition of Services by Gail Rinehart. County Councilman Robert Weiner presented a commendation in honor of Gail Rinehart's services, which was then entrusted to the Arden Archives.

9. Avery Task Force Report by Lynda Kolski:

"There have been some rather significant developments surrounding the Avery property in the last month. First, I'd like to identify the members of the task force since they have changed a little since the committee was first appointed in 1996. In addition to myself as chair, members are Bev Barnett, Marianne Cinaglia, Aaron Hamburger, Bill Press, Sally Sharp, Jannie Stearns, Steven Threefoot, and Tom Wheeler.

"As most of you know, the Avery property is a 5.02 acre parcel of land adjacent to Sherwood Forest. It is a long narrow strip between Arden and Sherwood Green with frontage on Marsh Road. The owner, Marsha Avery, wants to build 18 single family homes on it, and has a plan that was approved by the county in 1986. When the UDC, or Unified Development Code was passed in 1998, all existing plans on the books were grandfathered for 5 years. Meaning the developer had until December 31, 2002, to begin construction on their approved plan under the old code. Any plans not begun by the end of this year would have to be resubmitted under the new UDC, which has much more stringent guidelines around environmental issues, wetlands, riparian buffers, etc. Marsha Avery's plan fell into this category.

"We approached her in 1996 and asked if she was interested in selling and her price then was \$1.8 million. We estimated fair market value at about \$600,000. After that, not much happened, the plan sat dormant until late last year, when she started inquiring with the county about a sewer permit, the first step in developing it. We began closely monitoring activity, and in October 2001 had a professional appraisal of the property done, which estimated fair market value at \$725,000 if it could be developed into 18 single family homes.

"As of today, she has 100 days to complete a process that the county says at best takes a minimum of 3-4 months. The county believes that if she can pull this off in the next 100 days, she could build maybe 5-7 houses. After January 1, she could probably only build 1-3 houses. There is an outside chance she could sell the property to another developer to build over-55 cluster housing or try to do that herself under the UDC. Her lawyer also told us that she has interviewed a national law firm that specializes in suing local governments on land use issues. He believes she may be the ideal test case in NCC for this. However, this would be a very time consuming and expensive process for her.

"In late August, her lawyer contacted us and asked if we were still interested in purchasing the property at a reduced price of \$1.2 million. He indicated that there might be lots of state and county money available to help with the purchase. Since then we have been actively looking into possible funding from the state, county and private sources. The state is very anxious to partner with us on this, however, we have to go through the official grant cycle which starts in the spring. The county has indicated some interest to Avery's lawyer that they might have some money available as well.

"The Avery Task Force recommends that the village give us permission to start negotiations with Avery's lawyer or other agent to see if we can reach a mutually agreeable arrangement. There is always the chance that we won't be able to reach an agreement or that she'll decide she would rather try and develop it. I want to emphasize that if we can reach an agreement, and find viable funding sources to help with the purchase, that package or agreement would then be presented to the village, and residents would have the opportunity to approve or disapprove of it in a special referendum vote. The power to negotiate an agreement does give us authority to commit the village to anything. Any agreement can only be approved through a referendum vote. This is just the first step in getting to the point where we can actually present something to residents for consideration. It's an opportunity that we feel is very important to preserving this critical piece of woodlands.

"If she is allowed to develop the property, the negative impact on Sherwood Forest would be very significant, even with only 5-7 houses. Her plans include putting a road over Perkins Run and either putting it into a culvert or possibly filling in parts of it or its tributaries. The loss of even part of this five acres would mean significant loss of plant and animal habitat in Sherwood Forest.

"Therefore, I move that the Avery Task Force be authorized to begin negotiations with Marsha Avery's lawyer or agent to try and reach a mutual agreement for purchasing the property and to identify funding opportunities to make the purchase possible, with the understanding that any package or agreement would then be presented to the residents for approval in a special referendum."

Ruth Bean seconded Lynda's motion. There was no discussion, much to everyone's surprise. The motion passed unanimously. If this motion passed easily and unanimously, it is because the Avery Task Force had conducted a workshop explaining all the details and answering all questions, a workshop attending by perhaps twenty-five people.

10. Harvey Road Traffic Calming Report. Bev Barnet invited everyone back to Gild Hall the next day, Monday, Sept. 24, to hear and see DelDOT's concept for calming Harvey Road.

11. Trustees Financial Report.

VILLAGE OF ARDEN BALANCE SHEET, as of August 31, 2002

ASSETS

Checking/Savings

Arden Building & Loan – Trustee	\$116,381.62
Trustees – Wilmington Trust	32,616.94

VANGUARD

Fund 30	119,807.16
Fund 33	<u>196,363.77</u>

Total Vanguard	<u>316,170.93</u>
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Total Checking/Savings	465,169.49
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Accounts Receivable

LAND RENT RECEIVABLE

FYE – 3/24/02	1,045.78
FYE – 3/24/03	<u>11,119.09</u>

Total Land Rent Receivable

Total Accounts Receivable	<u>12,164.87</u>
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Total Current Assets	<u>477,334.36</u>
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TOTAL ASSETS	\$477,334.36
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signed: Aaron S. Hamburger, Trustee, 9/16/02

Elizabeth Varley, Ad. Assist.

VILLAGE OF ARDEN INCOME AND EXPENSES AGAINST BUDGET

March 25, 2002 to August 31, 2002

	Apr - Aug '02	Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
GRANTS		
NCC PASS-THRU V	5,000.00	
FUND		
TRAILS RENEWAL	-539.00	
Total FUND	-539.00	
NCC PASS-THRU I	2,272.69	
NCC PASS-THRU II	5,000.00	
NCC PASS-THRU III	5,000.00	
NCC PASS-THRU IV	5,000.00	
Total GRANTS	21,733.69	
INTEREST-BANK	62.19	20,000.00
INVESTMENT INCOME		
DIVIDENDS-VANGUARD		
FUND 30	640.03	
FUND 33	703.45	
Total DIVIDENDS-VANGUARD	1,343.48	
TRUSTEES'S AB&L INTEREST	3,634.17	
Total INVESTMENT INCOME	4,977.65	
LAND RENT	320,029.67	323,000.00
LAND RENT FINANCE CHARGE	728.83	
MEADOW LANE ACCESS	619.94	
MEMORIAL GARDEN DONATIONS	1,660.00	
Uncategorized Income		
ARDEN CENTENNIAL BOOK INCOME	19.00	
EXCAVATION PERMITS	10.00	
FIELD THEATER RENTAL	100.00	
REFUNDS	22.53	
TRAFFIC FINES	74.15	
Uncategorized Income - Other	2.00	21,000.00
Total Uncategorized Income	227.68	21,000.00
Total Income	350,039.65	364,000.00
Expense		
ADVISORY COMMITTEE	0.00	375.00
ARCHIVES		
RENT	910.00	
ARCHIVES - Other	240.00	4,000.00
Total ARCHIVES	1,150.00	4,000.00
BOARD OF ASSESSORS	0.00	50.00
BOOKEEPING SERVICE	1,000.85	2,402.00
BuzzWareVC COMMITTEE		
RENOVATIONS	0.00	6,000.00
BuzzWareVC COMMITTEE - Other	225.77	1,000.00
Total BuzzWareVC COMMITTEE	225.77	7,000.00
CIVIC		
COMMONS & FORESTS	5,883.93	20,000.00
ROADS	7,322.35	16,000.00
SPECIAL CLEAN-UP	1,768.47	1,500.00
TRAILS RENEWAL FUND	40.00	
TRASH	15,547.71	39,000.00
Total CIVIC	30,562.46	76,500.00
COMMUNITY PLANNING		
AVERY TASK FORCE	0.00	2,000.00
COMMUNITY PLANNING - Other	58.71	1,000.00
Total COMMUNITY PLANNING	58.71	3,000.00
CONTINGENCIES	0.00	2,000.00
CONTRIBUTIONS	4,050.00	4,050.00
GILD HALL RENTAL	850.00	850.00

	Apr - Aug '02	Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
GRANTS		
NCC PASS-THRU V FUND	5,000.00	
TRAILS RENEWAL	-539.00	
Total FUND	-539.00	
NCC PASS-THRU I	2,272.69	
NCC PASS-THRU II	5,000.00	
NCC PASS-THRU III	5,000.00	
NCC PASS-THRU IV	5,000.00	
Total GRANTS	21,733.69	
INTEREST-BANK	62.19	20,000.00
INVESTMENT INCOME		
DIVIDENDS-VANGUARD		
FUND 30	840.03	
FUND 33	703.45	
Total DIVIDENDS-VANGUARD	1,343.48	
TRUSTEES'S AB&L INTEREST	3,634.17	
Total INVESTMENT INCOME	4,977.65	
LAND RENT	320,029.67	323,000.00
LAND RENT FINANCE CHARGE	728.83	
MEADOW LANE ACCESS	619.94	
MEMORIAL GARDEN DONATIONS	1,660.00	
Uncategorized Income		
ARDEN CENTENNIAL BOOK INCOME	19.00	
EXCAVATION PERMITS	10.00	
FIELD THEATER RENTAL	100.00	
REFUNDS	22.53	
TRAFFIC FINES	74.15	
Uncategorized Income - Other	2.00	21,000.00
Total Uncategorized Income	227.68	21,000.00
Total Income	350,039.65	364,000.00
Expense		
ADVISORY COMMITTEE	0.00	375.00
ARCHIVES		
RENT	910.00	
ARCHIVES - Other	240.00	4,000.00
Total ARCHIVES	1,150.00	4,000.00
BOARD OF ASSESSORS	0.00	50.00
BOOKEEPING SERVICE	1,000.85	2,402.00
BuzzWareVC COMMITTEE		
RENOVATIONS	0.00	6,000.00
BuzzWareVC COMMITTEE - Other	225.77	1,000.00
Total BuzzWareVC COMMITTEE	225.77	7,000.00
CIVIC		
COMMONS & FORESTS	5,883.93	20,000.00
ROADS	7,322.35	16,000.00
SPECIAL CLEAN-UP	1,768.47	1,500.00
TRAILS RENEWAL FUND	40.00	
TRASH	15,547.71	39,000.00
Total CIVIC	30,562.46	76,500.00
COMMUNITY PLANNING		
AVERY TASK FORCE	0.00	2,000.00
COMMUNITY PLANNING - Other	58.71	1,000.00
Total COMMUNITY PLANNING	58.71	3,000.00
CONTINGENCIES	0.00	2,000.00
CONTRIBUTIONS	4,050.00	4,050.00
GILD HALL RENTAL	850.00	850.00

12. Further Trustees' Report by Marianne Cinaglia

"2002-2003 County and School taxes:

a: \$239,707.05 = Total taxes

b: \$ 54,517.38 = County taxes

c: \$169,106.11 = School taxes

d: \$ 16,083.56 = Senior/Disability age and income rebates

"Senior citizen leaseholders are reminded to call the county assessment office for forms to apply for the tax relief rebate if you have not already done so and will be 65 or older by next July. The Trustees do not determine eligibility for rebates. We simply use the information on county bills.

"The Trustees are working with engineers from Leggette, Brashear & Graham, Inc. to update the estimate of the damage that the drainage from the Buckingham Greene construction has done to the Sherwood Forest.

"The Trustees want to pay special tribute to one of Arden's former Trustees, Gail Rinehart. Gail dedicated thousands of hours of her own time to Village business. She is responsible for many of the orderly and organized methods that we use today. Her careful and meticulous methods will continue to guide Arden business practices in the years to come. Gail will be greatly missed."

Following Marianne's report, discussion ensued about a Village memorial for Gail, damage to Sherwood Forest from Buckingham Greene, and possible remedies for that damage. The engineers suggest three fixes.

1) Pipes from Buckingham Greene into water retention ponds in forest;

2) Repair forest best as possible, but this would be wheelbarrow work by hand; and

3) French drain system. Redo pipes, connect to Veale.

13. Archives Report by Sadie Somerville

"Cataloging is continuing with volunteers helping to catalog items of interest such as The Arden School, Ardensingers, Books, Articles on Arden, and Arden buildings. In all, 667 items have been cataloged so far. If anyone is interested in helping with this or other projects at archives talk to Danny Schweers or Sadie Somerville

"Recent Acquisitions: Alex Roberts, the son of Louise Roberts, donated a whole collection of Miriam Hetzel pottery to Archives from Miriam's collection in Florida. He also has period photos of the Printshop. A set design for "The Mikado" by Edward Jester was given by Pat Phillips to the Archives."

14. Craft Shop Museum Report: Aaron Hamburger reported that the CSM annual meeting will be held on Sunday, Sept. 29 at the Buzz Ware Village Center at 3:00 p.m. Renovations to the Craft Shop are behind schedule because we have yet to get New Castle County clearances.

15. Assessors' Report by Alton Dahl

"Board of Assessors final report was issued at the June Town Assembly. If no challenge is received at this meeting that report will be final. No challenge having been received, the Assessors report of June 2002 became the approved rate for Land Rent due on March 25, 2003."

16. Audit Committee Report: Cookie Ohlson reported that the Audit Committee will present an updated charter at the January Meeting. Cecilia Vore made a note that neither the Handbook nor the Arden Book are the governing documents of the Village.

17. Budget Committee Report: Mark Zylkin presented the following projected budget.

PROJECTED BUDGET, FISCAL YEAR MARCH 25, 2003-2004:

INCOME	NOTES	(2003-2004)	(2002-2003)	(2001-2002)
Land Rent		PROJECTED	PROJECTED	ACTUAL
Delaware Municipal Street Aid		376,000	323,000	\$ 351,890
Interest and Other Income		20,000	20,000	24,530
SUB-TOTAL: INCOME		\$ 441,000	\$ 384,000	\$ 424,236
Reserve		126,240	187,432	179,553
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE		\$ 569,240	\$ 571,432	\$ 603,789
EXPENSES:				
NON-BUDGET EXPENSES				
Property Taxes:				
County	1a	58,000	57,227	58,782
School	1b	191,500	184,904	152,889
Trustees Administration	2	48,170	45,380	37,447
Grants - State of Delaware				
State Grant (Div. of the Arts) to BWVC Committee	3			1,361
State Grant for Roads to Civic Committee		12,000	10,000	12,185
Delaware Municipal Street Aid - Roads		20,000	20,000	17,240
SUB- TOTAL NON-BUDGET EXPENSES		\$ 329,670	\$ 317,511	\$ 277,904
BUDGET EXPENSES		PROPOSED BUDGET for Referendum	APPROPRIATED	ACTUAL
Acquisition Committee/Craft Shop				
Advisory		300	375	
Archives	4	3,600	4,000	3,161
Board of Assessors		50	50	
Buzz Ware Village Center	4	1,000	1,000	1,000
Buzz Ware Village - Renovation Project		6,000	6,000	12,500
Civic Committee:				
Roads		17,000	16,000	9,615
Commons & Forests		20,000	20,000	22,591
Trash Collection		40,000	39,000	37,107
Special Clean - up		2,000	1,500	956
Community Planning:		1,000	1,000	603
Avery Task Force		2,000	2,000	
Legislative Reference		50	50	
Playground		1,850	1,800	1,750
Equipment				2,113
Registration		1,200	1,200	2,738
Safety - General		1,000	1,000	785
Town Watch Coordinator Fees		2,268	2,268	
Harvey Rd. Speed Limit Enforcement	5	2,000	2,000	2,000
Town Expenses				
Salaries:	6			
Secretary		6,624	5,932	5,264
Bookkeeping - Town		2,681	2,402	2,124
Town Administrative Expenses	7	3,400	3,325	
Town Telephone	8			190
Donations:				
ACRA		1,350	1,300	1,000
Arden Page		1,350	1,300	1,250
Arden Library		550	500	450
Fire Companies	9	950	950	950
Gild Hall Rental		900	850	800
Contingencies		2,000	2,000	253
SUB- TOTAL BUDGET EXPENSES		\$ 121,123	\$ 117,802	\$ 109,200
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ 450,793	\$ 435,313	\$ 387,104

See accompanying notes to Proposed Budget FY 2003 - 2004: Referendum in October 2002.

18. Notes to FY 2003 - 2004 Proposed Budget by Mark Zylkin:

Property Taxes:

- County Taxes: Represents a 1% yearly increase.
- School Taxes: Represents a 28% increase over a 4-year period, of which 21% (\$32,000) paid in current 2002-03 year. Increase approved in the Brandywine School District's referendum on May 31, 2001.

Trustees Administration – Increase due to higher insurance costs.

Grants – State of Delaware - \$1,361 is a Grant by the State Division of the Arts as reimbursement for BWVC Committee art materials expenditure.

Archives/Buzz Ware Village Center – Archives will pay the full annual rent to BWVC, irrespective of the date they move out. This secures appropriate funding for the BWVC Committee without them having to budget for a possible shortfall, if BWVC move out midyear.

Safety Committee – Harvey Rd. Speed Limit Enforcement Patrols: cooperative project with Ardentown & Ardencroft to hire State of Delaware off-duty police officers to enforce “Drive 25”.

Town Expenses – Salaries: Secretary salary is \$6,108 plus \$516 for payroll taxes. Bookkeeper salary is \$2,472 plus \$209 for payroll taxes. Previously, all payroll taxes were paid out of Trustees Administration, as a non budgeted expense. We are now including payroll taxes as part of the budgeted expenses. Thus previous figures shown are salaries only.

Town Administrative Expenses – Previously agreed last year to transfer this line item from Registration committee to more accurately reflect what the Town expenses are for mailing, supplies, equipment, fees, dues, etc.

Town Telephone – Previously agreed to incorporate under Town Administrative Expenses starting in 2002-2003.

Donations - Fire Companies - Claymont Fire Co. \$650, Talleyville Fire Co. \$150 and Brandywine Hundred Fire Co. \$150.

20. Discussion of Proposed Budget

Marianne Cinaglia moved that the Village contribute \$100 to the new New Castle County public library on Foulk Road. Pete Renzetti seconded. Discussion ensued. Marianne accepted Bev Barnet’s amendment that the \$100 come from the Contingency Fund. Motion passed unanimously.

Aaron Hamburger made a motion that Claymont Fire Company should receive all the money we give local fire departments. The motion died from lack of a second. Afterwards, Elizabeth Varley noted that the amount given to Claymont has not be raised in many years.

21. Buzz Ware Village Center Report by Betty O’Regan

Fiscal year 2001-2002 reconciliation:

- Income from interest, BWVC activities and miscellaneous donations was down from last year however, “other rentals” showed an increase of \$1,723.00.
- “Other miscellaneous income” includes (01-02) \$14,513.53 raised at the auction last November and (02-03) \$12,500.00 of the budgeted town money marked for the renovations to the exterior of the building.
- Our administrative/programming expenses were about the same as last year.
- Maintenance and supplies expenses were considerably less than the previous year; this large contrast was primarily because of the previous year’s repair bills due to the fire.
- Small Equipment/Improvement expenses were slightly less than last year and not at all close to the projected figures for the 01-02 fiscal year due to the fact we postponed the painting of the building last year. These expenses will show in fiscal year 2002-2003.
- Overall we fared well with utilities. The oil expense of last winter was approximately —the expense of the previous year. Our telephone bill rose sharply during 2001-2002 due to improper use of the phone. We were unable to determine who was continuing to make long distance calls, however, we have resolved the problem by terminating long distance service on the BWVC phone line.

- We made a profit of \$3,170.53, which covered our deficit of \$2,077.85 from the previous year bringing a net profit for fiscal year 2001-2002 to \$1,092.86. This money can now be added to the money being raised for the window renovations.
- Our Arden Building & Loan account has \$9,925.52 as of September 2002; this money is earmarked for future roof work to the building. At the present time we cannot put any more money into this account so we will be opening another money market account to hold the money raised from the auction and other special donations ear-marked for renovation projects.
- Our checking account is in good standing. Most of the projections for next year are figured averages based on the first five months of this fiscal year.

Exterior Renovations: The painting of the masonry and upper trim work has been completed. We opted to change the color scheme of the building in a very subtle way this time; the masonry color is Foxfire Brown and the trim is Annapolis Gray. The windows and screens were not painted as we are still in the process of raising money for the window renovations. Three sets of new doors were installed, an old door removed and walled in, and major repairs were done to one set of doors.

Maintenance Projects:

- Tim Colgan came all the way from Florida to help us re-oil the floor in Room 3. Now that we know the procedure, this will become a part of the yearly floor maintenance.
- The same week Tim worked on Room 3, the hallways were also stripped and re-waxed.
- Fans and tract lighting, donated by Sanford School, were installed in Room 4.
- We no longer have scratchy reception on our phone lines! The phone company did some sorely needed repairs and a new jack was also installed near Archives.

Vandalism: It is unfortunate that we must report another incident of vandalism at the Buzz Ware. Someone spray-painted graffiti across part of the mural on the back wall. It occurred about the same time and is similar paint used on graffiti sprayed on the Club parking lot. If anyone knows who is responsible for this or has any pertinent information, please contact our committee. If at all possible we would like to involve the culprit(s) in the responsibility of repairing the damage. Betty is going to try to re-touch the mural with paints.

Dan's Doors: As most of you already know, Dan Connor passed away at the end of August. Chuck and Phyllis requested that those wishing to donate in his memory send the money to the BWVC. So far close to \$2,500.00 has been donated. We have decided to commemorate Dan's spirit of life and connection to the BWVC by installing special entranceway doors, a much-needed project as the current doors are beginning to fall apart.

Matching Money: We are currently seeking sources of grant money to match the monies raised by the auction and donated in Dan's honor. Mary Marconi will be assisting us with this endeavor. If anyone else would like to volunteer time for research, proposal writing, etc. please call one of the BWVC committee members.

Art Grant Evaluation: The evaluation for the art grant we received last year is being submitted this week. Quite a list of exhibitors we had last year: Carlos Pasqual, Johanna Schroeder, June and Bernie Kleban, Phil Fisher, Carolyn Cordivano, Mary Morrison, Debbie Hegadus, Kayla Rafert, John Otley, Russ McKinney, Jessica Roy's Saturday morning class and ACRA's summer camp open house. We started off this year's season of exhibits with a special outreach to the community at large. Peaceworks, Inc., a group that provides art therapy for mentally disabled children, agreed to set up a special exhibit for us for the Arden Fair and for September's Coffee House. The day of the fair the exhibit was very well attended, some people even wanting to buy some of the children's artwork (unfortunately it is not for sale). Please keep in mind the exhibit room and display case are available throughout the year; if you are interested in sharing your artwork or that of others with the community, contact Betty O'Regan about scheduling.

Rentals: As evidenced by the income produced, rentals continue to improve at the Buzz Ware. Our long-standing tenant, YMCA of Delaware has a new program this year for 3 & 4 year olds, which is off to a good start. Our list of ongoing rentals include: Stagehands, Danny Peak's acting workshops, Jessica Roy's Saturday morning art class, the home inspectors' association, Tai Chi sessions and yoga classes. The building also continues to be used for various community committees and groups, and there have been a number of private rentals during the year. The hum of activity in the rooms and hallways of the Buzz Ware continues to increase – a satisfying sign to our committee that the BWVC truly is evolving into our community center.

Town Office Space: Archives' scheduled move to the Craftshop in December 2004 will open up space at the Buzz Ware for even more community use. One of the ideas the committee has been considering is that part of this area be allotted as town office space for the three Ardens. Our committee will be discussing this possibility further in the upcoming year.

Upcoming Events:

- Friday the 13th kicked off the new season for Coffee House Night. So remember, the 2nd Friday of every month come over and share the evening with friends and neighbors.
- Carvers – start sharpening those chisels! The 2nd Annual Giant Pumpkin Carve will take place October 27th at 2:00 P.M. Get your crews signed up early by calling Betty O'Regan.
- BWVC committee meetings are held the 1st Monday of every month at 7:30 PM and as always, all are welcome to come sit in on our meetings.

Buzz Ware Village Center Account Reconciliation for Fiscal Year 2001-2002

- The BWVC Operating Budget, a separate account, controls the revenues and associated expenditures relating to the daily operation and maintenance of the Center
- The Town Assembly budget provides for administrative/programming expenses and for town authorized special needs.

Revenues	Actual 3/25/01-3/24/02	Projected 3/25/02-3/24/03
Interest		
Bank Interest - Wilm. Trust	\$56.42	\$100.00
Bank Interest - AB&L	\$595.81	\$600.00
Subtotal:	\$652.23	\$700.00
Misc. Income		
BWVC Activities	\$1,310.96	\$1,320.00
Donation, Ardencroft	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Donation, Ardentown	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Donations, other	\$768.26	\$808.00
Other	\$15,874.89	\$15,500.00
Subtotal:	\$19,954.11	\$19,628.00
Rental Fees:		
Archives	\$2,184.00	\$2,184.00
YMCA	\$12,350.00	\$12,350.00
Other Rentals	\$3,153.00	\$3,588.00
Subtotal:	\$17,687.00	\$18,122.00
TOTAL INCOMES:	\$38,293.34	\$38,450.00

Revenues	Actual 3/25/01-3/24/02	Projected 3/25/02-3/24/03
Disbursements		
Admin/Program	-\$2,735.93	-\$200.00
Maintenance & Supplies	-\$10,026.39	-\$10,160.00
Small Equip/Improve.	-\$4,615.66	-\$22,700.00
Utilities		
Electricity	-\$1,438.46	-\$1,815.00
Oil	-\$1,681.19	-\$2,500.00
Water	-\$377.89	-\$437.00
Phone	-\$621.64	-\$488.00
Subtotal:	-\$4,119.18	-\$5,240.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS:	-\$21,497.16	-\$38,300.00
AUCTION RESERVE TO GO TO MONEY MARKET	-\$13,625.65	
NET OPERATING PROFIT	\$3,170.53	\$150.00

Money Market acct. bal.: \$9925.52 as of 09/02

TOWN ASSEMBLY BUDGET

Admin/Programming	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Renovation Projects	\$12,500.00	\$6,000.00

22. Civic Committee Report by Sue Rothrock, chair

"The gardener's guild and the civic committee will host a presentation including a slide show by botanist Janet Ebert and biologist Jim White. They will discuss their revealing survey of plants and animals in the Sherwood Forest, including the rare carnivorous harvester butterfly. Please join us after the community supper on Saturday, November 2nd at 7:15 p.m. in the upper Guild Hall. Refreshments will be served. Civic volunteer Bev Barnett has a mini report on the carnivorous butterfly.

"The civic committee has prepared a handout on leaf removal policies. They will be mailed to all leaseholds.

"We have received a check for capital improvements from the Bond Bill fund. The project funded this year will be raising of the curbstone area surrounding the Sherwood Green to help control runoff and keep the historical look of the village.

"There have been some dead crows found around the Arden Green area. Burley Melton called DENREC and was told that they were aware that crows in this area have been affected by the West Nile disease and that they will be spraying in this area."

At the conclusion of Sue's report, Bev Barnett noted that as many as fifty of the rare carnivorous harvester butterflies have been spotted in Sherwood Forest. June Kleban enthusiastically encouraged people to start pulling mile-a-minute vine up by the roots now! Other entertaining comments followed.

23. Community Planning Report by Lynda Kolski

"**Landmark Status:** We do not believe the application has been resubmitted with changes yet. We were hoping to have it in the pipeline before election time.

"**Airplane Noise:** Although there was a short period when the airplane noise seemed to improve, it has gotten back to its previous levels over the summer and particularly in recent weeks.

"**Harvey Road Traffic Calming:** David Gerbec is a new Arden representative on the Committee, replacing Steve Harcourt. The committee welcomes David and his enthusiasm for slowing traffic on Harvey Rd. There continues to be a problem with speeding DART buses on Harvey Road. Residents are encouraged to report any buses

which speed or tailgate other cars to DART. They need to know the bus number, time of day and date.

"Many thanks to everyone who filled out surveys and expressed their opinions at the last town meeting and at the DelDot public hearing. DelDot has gotten the message that most people were not in favor of the arches, particularly if they didn't slow traffic. DelDot came back to us with some minor variations on the arch theme, which the committee returned with a number of questions that we are still awaiting answers on. They also gave us the very disconcerting news that yet another DelDot reorganization was going to result in yet another DelDot team for us to work with. This is extremely discouraging to the committee because it seems we just get one team up to speed (no pun intended) and current with who the Ardens are, what we're trying to accomplish and what is acceptable and what's not, when they switch teams on us and we're back to square one. DelDot has suggested another public workshop on October 2 at Gild Hall. If and when this workshop takes place, all residents are encouraged to once again stop by and express your opinions. The importance of your input in this process can not be emphasized enough."

24. Legislative Reference Report by Elizabeth Varley

"The committee is reviewing past minutes of town assembly meetings, finding motions and other pertinent items of business, and compiling an index which will be distributed to committee chairs, Advisory chair, Town Assembly Chair, and the trustees. We have completed about ten years' worth and are working on the 1980s."

25. Playground Committee Report by Larry Walker

"During the past three months, the required Playground Inspections were conducted, and all equipment was "adult tested" to ensure safety. The August Inspection was made just before the Arden Fair to ensure that the equipment was in safe condition right before that busy day. All equipment is in safe condition. Additional 'playground wood chips' were installed under some equipment to restore the shock absorbing surface. Today, twenty cubic yards were delivered to the enclosed playground behind the BWVC, and these will be spread soon.

"After a long time out to pasture, the two horses will be returned to the Village Green. The replacement parts have finally been received from the manufacturer, and after some needed painting, the units will be re-assembled and re-installed."

26. Registration Committee Report by Cecilia Vore

"The election of the Board of Assessors for 2003 and the Budget Referendum will be held on or near November 12*, with ballots for those elections to be mailed by October 15.

"The following residents have agreed to be nominated for the Board of Assessors: Alton Dahl, Carl Falco, Joan Fitzgerald, Tom Frantz, Finn Hannover*, Lynda Kolski, Mary Marconi, Al Marks, Jeff Politis, Peter Renzetti, Jeff Steen*, Ken Sutton, Steve Tanzer, and Tom Wheeler. We welcome any other nominations from the floor tonight.

"I have the current list of residents available tonight if anyone would like to check our information. After any necessary corrections, and before mailing the ballots for Assessors and Budget, this list will be submitted to the Town Secretary for the town records."

*NOTE: After the September meeting, the election date was changed to Nov. 19. Finn Hannover and Jeff Steen withdrew their names, and were replaced by Dan McNeil and Ed Rohrbach.

Also, at the meeting, Cecilia noted that we have gone back to the original method of counting votes in the Budget Referendum; that is, over fifty percent of eligible voters must approve the budget before it can be considered approved.

27. Safety Committee Report by Denis O'Regan

"The peeping Tom has moved.

"During the month of June, 49 tickets were issued in 24 hrs of State Trooper details.

"A Town Watch Coordinator has been selected: Danny Schweers. A committee of the three safety representatives of the Ardens have made the selection and thank the applicants for their interest. The committee is in development of procedures and responsibilities for the position.

"Results of the Traffic Calming Survey were forwarded by Bev Barnett and will be reviewed with the State Police to underscore the need for additional speed enforcement on Harvey Road.

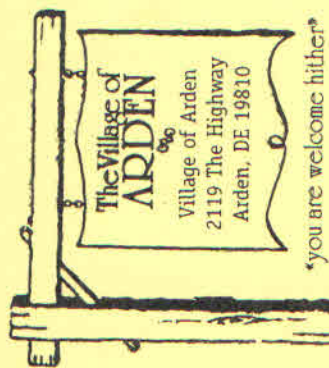
"Reports about 'Dogs with People Issues' have been few and, primarily verbal and anecdotal. If you have a story, please forward it to ardensafety@theardens.com."

After Denis's report, Johanne Schroeder noted that many people driving on Harvey Road mistake Orleans Road for Marsh Road; they come down so far, realize their mistake, then turn around in front of her house. A discussion ensued.

Denis moved that Arden renew for one year the closing of the woodlands from dusk to dawn except with special permission from the Civic Committee. Pete Renzetti seconded and motion was passed unanimously.

28. Georgist Lectures Announced, Meeting Adjourned

Rodney Jester noted that lectures were being offered on Georgist fundamentals. Then Bill Press moved and Pete Renzetti seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. Pass Unanimously.



**Dated Materials
Enclosed**

Notice of Next Town
Meeting

Minutes of
Preceding
Town Meeting